



**KING COUNTY
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Wednesday, July 23, 2003

4:00-5:30 PM

Conference Room 6B, Exchange Building
821 2nd Ave., Seattle, WA 98104

Meeting Minutes

Attending:

Roger Goodman (Chair/KCASAAB)
Eleanor Owen (Vice Chair/KCMHAB)

Kim Murillo (KCASAAB)

Absent:

Linda Brown (KCASAAB)
Jim Harbaugh (KCASAAB)
Ron Sterling (KCMHAB)

Mindy Meyring (KCMHAB)
Clifford Thruston (KCMHAB)
Howard Miller (KCMHAB)

Visitors:

Staff:

Amnon Shoenfeld

Geoff Miller

- I. Introductions were made. Roger introduced Kim Murillo from the KCASAAB as the newest member of the committee. Roger noted that several of the absent members were at family events or had a schedule conflict, but would be attending the August meeting.**
- II. Draft Agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.**
- III. Meeting minutes from the June 25, 2003 Meeting were approved as written.**

Available in alternate formats upon request.

(206) 205-1324 or (206) 205-1136

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IV. Legislative Forum

- The Legislative Forum will be held at the Kirkland Performing Arts Center November 18, 2003 from 7:30 PM until 9:00 PM with initial registration beginning at 7:00 PM.
- A discussion of the structure of the forum began this section of the meeting. The Committee Chair asked if everyone would be willing to participate in an email discussion of the Forum structure and the legislative agenda between meetings. The group agreed and the Chair stated that he would generate an email discussion among the Committee Members with progress to be reported back at the next committee meeting.
- It was agreed that phone calls to the legislators or their staff asking them to reserve the date of the forum should be done. Staff agreed to make the calls to the 52 legislators.
- A brief discussion of the format of the structure yielded the following ideas:
 - There is a desire for this year's forum to have more personal stories than last year's forum.
 - It was suggested that we give the legislators a question ahead of time allowing them to prepare an answer for the forum.
 - It was suggested that the personal stories should focus on what has worked for the individual and family.
 - It was suggested that a methadone wait listed person speak about their experiences in waiting for treatment.
 - Use of the prevalence study, which may be completed in by the forum, was suggested.
 - Employment, housing, criminal justice and recovery and other successful programs was recommended as important to be included.
 - Inclusion of clients from Consejo or Asian Counseling and Referral Services who may have immigration issues to speak about their challenges and successes in getting mental health and/or CD treatment.
- Staff will draft a sample forum agenda to begin discussion of the format forum for the next meeting.

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- The Legislative Agenda was discussed.
 - Mental Health Parity was noted as important to be included.
 - Insurance industry disclosure and publication of criteria for use of CD benefits was suggested.
 - Ending Medicaid Title XIX waiting lists for methadone treatment was noted. This may be an issue that the King County Bar Association may present as a legislative priority.
 - Expanding the treatment capacity of mental health to accept more non-Medicaid clients was noted as a significant issue.
 - Expanding treatment capacity for chemical dependency.
 - Excise tax on beer to fund treatment was suggested for the legislative agenda.

Handouts from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and Department of Social and Health Services describing their respective public policy issues were distributed for information purposes.

- V. Activities for Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month will include a proclamation by Ron Sims and the Exemplary Service Awards in October.**
- VI. Outreach to & nominations of community members for committee membership will be continued at the August meeting.**
- VII. No other agenda items were brought forward.**
- VIII. Set Agenda for August 27, 2003 meeting, which will be held as follows:**

August 27, 2003 4 PM to 5:30 PM Conference Room 6B, Exchange Building 821 2 nd Ave., Seattle, WA 98104
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For information call Geoff Miller, King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division (206) 205-1136.

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